



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/849,180	05/20/2004	In-yong Song	1793.1229	7249
21171	7590	11/17/2005	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			TRAN, HOAN H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2852	

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/849,180	SONG, IN-YONG	
	Examiner Hoan H. Tran	Art Unit 2852	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,2,5,6 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 3,4,6-9 and 12-20 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 20 May 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>05/20/2004</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hirai [6,016,419].

Hirai discloses a liquid image forming apparatus comprising a transfer liquid application device [9] for depositing an amount of liquid carrier [Col. 10, lines 12-37] on a print medium before an image is transferred onto the print medium [Col. 5, lines 16-41]; wherein said transfer liquid application comprising a first roller [91] depositing the liquid carrier on a print side of the print medium, a second roller [92] made of rubber [Col. 7, line 55 to Col. 8, line 4] pushing the print medium towards the first roller, and said first and second rollers guiding the print medium in a direction towards to transfer an image onto the print medium [Fig. 1].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 2 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi et al. [6,353,721] in view of Hirai.

Yamaguchi et al. disclose a liquid image forming apparatus [Fig. 1] comprising a plurality of photosensitive drums [10], an intermediate transfer belt [1], a plurality of chargers [11], a plurality of laser scanning units [12], a plurality of developing units [14], and a secondary transfer roller [62] that transfers the toner image from the intermediate transfer belt onto a sheet of paper. However, Yamaguchi et al. does not disclose a liquid carrier depositing unit.

Hirai discloses a liquid image forming apparatus comprising a liquid carrier depositing unit [9] for depositing an amount of liquid carrier [Col. 10, lines 12-37] on a print medium before an image is transferred onto the print medium [Col. 5, lines 16-41]; wherein said liquid carrier depositing unit comprising a depositing roller [91] depositing the liquid carrier on a print side of the print medium, a pressing roller [92] made of rubber [Col. 7, line 55 to Col. 8, line 4] pushing the print medium towards the depositing roller, and said depositing and pressing rollers guiding the print medium in a direction towards to transfer an image onto the print medium [Fig. 1; Col. 5, lines 17-41].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to provide the liquid image forming apparatus disclosed by Yamaguchi et al. with a liquid carrier depositing unit as taught by Hirai for the purpose of obtaining images with good quality.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 3, 4, 6-9 and 12-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Prior Art

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

- Caruthers et al. [US 2002/0197087] disclose a liquid developer system.
- Sakai et al. [US 2002/0064403] disclose a duplex image transferring device.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoan H. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-2141. The examiner can normally be reached from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Arthur Grimley can be reached at (571) 272-2136. The central office fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Art Unit: 2852

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

HHT
Nov. 10, 2005



HOAN TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER